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Smallpox in Naples.—During the week ended February 4 there were reported at the health office of the city of Naples 24 cases of smallpox.

## Italy Declared Free from Cholera.

The Italian Ambassador at Washington stated to the Department of State in a communication dated February 12 that the whole of Italy has been officially declared free from cholera since January 30.

#### NEW ZEALAND.

## Smallpox on Steamship.

Consul General Prickett at Auckland reports January 9:

A communication received from the minister of public health, dated December 31, 1910, states that the steamship *Knight of the Garter* arrived at Lyttleton from Karotzu, Japan, December 31, 1910, with a case of smallpox on board in the person of an officer of the vessel. All on board were vaccinated and the vessel was quarantined and no communication with the shore allowed.

#### PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

#### Health Conditions-Status of Cholera.

Chief Quarantine Officer Heiser at Manila reports January 11:

### HEALTH OF THE PHILIPPINES.

At the beginning of the year 1911 the health of the Philippines is much more satisfactory than at any time during the past 10 years, which makes it possible to begin the work of the new year under more favorable auspices than has been the case heretofore. There have been no cases of plague for over three years; smallpox is less prevalent; cholera is only known to exist in a sporadic form at Naujan, Mindoro, and upon the Island of Catanduanes; malaria prevails to a lesser extent; there is less beriberi, and a smaller number of cases of intestinal diseases than ordinarily. If this favorable condition of affairs should continue, there would be an opportunity to commence work upon a foundation upon which a sanitary superstructure might be erected which would make outbreaks of diseases like those enumerated above much less likely to occur in the future.

This satisfactory state of affairs makes it more incumbent than ever upon the service to exercise the greatest vigilance in preventing the introduction of quarantinable diseases. The Philippines are seriously threatened by the plague which exists at Shanghai and by the frequent recurrent outbreaks of both plague and cholera in Japan. The great shortage which exists in the rice crop of the Philippines will also no doubt increase the number of rice-laden vessels which arrive from Indo-China and Siam, and, as there are ports in these countries which are infected, special precautions will be necessary in dealing with such vessels.

During the week ended January 7 no case of quarantinable disease was reported in Manila. During the same period 8 cases of cholera

with 8 deaths were reported in Albay Province.